## MINUTES OF MEETING State Board of Education May 14, 2008

The May meeting of the State Board of Education was held in the State Board Conference Room in the Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa. The following Board members were present: Max Phillips, LaMetta Wynn, Valorie Kruse, Wayne Kobberdahl, Brian Gentry, Joan Jaimes, Sister Jude Fitzpatrick, Kameron Dodge, Charles Edwards, and Rosie Hussey. Director Judy Jeffrey and Department staff Gail Sullivan, Carol Greta, Janice Friedel, Jeff Berger, Kevin Fangman, Del Hoover, Elaine Watkins-Miller, Roger Utman, Joyce Thomsen, Jeremy Varner, Kent Farver, Colleen Hunt, Helene Grossman, Amy Vybiral, Arlie Willems, Thomas Mayes, Steve Wooderson, Matt Coulter and Beverlee Adams were present. Also in attendance were: M. J. Dolan, Iowa Association of Community College Trustees; Dr. Kevin Fiene, Wartburg College; Linda Allen and Greg Schmitz, Hawkeye Community College; Bob Zientara, *Ames Tribune*; Dar Danielson, Radio Iowa; and Rod Boshart, *Cedar Rapids Gazette*.

Director Judy Jeffrey, presiding officer, called the meeting to order at 12:00 noon. Rosie Hussey moved approval of the agenda as presented. Wayne Kobberdahl seconded.

Jeffrey introduced and welcomed the three new State Board members: Joan Jaimes, Marshalltown; Valorie Kruse, Sioux City; and LaMetta Wynn, Clinton.

#### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Department director Judy Jeffrey presided over the meeting for the purpose of electing a board president.

Wayne Kobberdahl nominated Rosie Hussey for president of the State Board. Brian Gentry seconded. Ms. Hussey accepted the nomination. Nominations ceased and a roll call vote was called.

Voting aye on the nomination of Rosie Hussey as president: Edwards, Fitzpatrick, Gentry, Jaimes, Kobberdahl, Kruse, Phillips, and Wynn. Hussey abstained. Rosie Hussey was elected Board president and presided over the remainder of the meeting.

Sister Jude Fitzpatrick nominated Charlie Edwards as vice-president. Max Phillips seconded.

Charlie Edwards accepted the nomination. Nominations ceased and a roll call vote was called.

Voting aye on the nomination of vice-president: Fitzpatrick, Gentry, Hussey, Jaimes, Kobberdahl, Kruse, Phillips and Wynn. Edwards abstained.

Charlie Edwards was elected vice-president.

### COMMUNICATION

There was no public comment.

### **Director Report**

Director Jeffrey reported that the Department had received a \$259,576 grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Grants to Improve the Mental Health of Children program.

Jeffrey provided an update on Wallace Foundation funding. As part of the on-going evaluation of the impact of this funding, a team of four evaluators from the RAND Corporation will be conducting a site visit to lowa during the week of November 10, 2008. The Wallace Foundation has also approved lowa's application for the next two years and has increased the total grant award by \$200,000 each year for a total of \$1.5 million annually.

Urban districts and districts identified as in need of improvement are conducting activities to analyze how their financial resources are being utilized to increase student achievement.

Director Jeffrey provided an update on the planning for implementation of the core curriculum. Additional funding was awarded by the 2008 legislature for AEA staff to assist in this effort.

Jeffrey noted that the 4-year-old preschool program applications have been received. The selection process will be conducted and recipients notified in June. Staff updates provided by Director Jeffrey were: Roger Stirler, Chief, Office of Internal Administrative Services, has taken a promotion to the lowa Department of Revenue and the Department has lost a beloved staff member, Carmen Sosa.

### **Legislative Update**

Jeff Berger, Legislative Liaison, handed out and discussed a summary of the education legislation passed during the 2008 year.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Max Phillips moved and Charlie Edwards seconded to approve the following items listed on the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

- April State Board Minutes
- Rules: Chapter 56 Entrepreneurs with Disabilities (Termination of Rulemaking and Re-Notice)
- Iowa Central Charter School Renewal (SE Webster Grand CSD)

Max Phillips indicated he would like to add a discussion of charter schools to the State Board retreat agenda.

### **DISCUSSION/ACTION AGENDA**

### **Update on Shared Efficiency Study**

Division Administrator, Kevin Fangman, reported the findings of the shared efficiency study required by Senate File 447, passed in 2007 by the Iowa General Assembly. This study was to provide findings and recommendations about potential sharing and efficiency efforts among school districts, area education agencies, community colleges, other postsecondary institutions, and governmental subdivisions.

A series of regional discussions were facilitated through area education agencies (AEAs) and various educational personnel and county and municipal government officials were invited to participate. Kevin Fangman said various efficiency proposals in the following areas were examined:

- Operational efficiencies
- Shared programming
- Transportation sharing
- Expansion of area education agency cooperatives
- Common schedules for school districts and community colleges

- Energy and insurance efficiencies
- Effective structure and delivery models that promote optimum student achievement
- Graduation requirements
- A rigorous, relevant curriculum

Fangman reported on the findings, barriers and Department recommendations as a result of this study. Brian Gentry asked what the next step would be following the release of this study. It was suggested that this would be a good discussion topic to be included on the Board retreat agenda.

Director Jeffrey said that additional data was also needed to complete and document the shared efficiency findings.

## Request for General Accreditation Status-Grandview Park Baptist School

It was noted by Kevin Fangman, Administrator, PK-12 Education, that Grandview Park Baptist received an initial visit from the Department in January, 2008. A formal accreditation visit occurred in April, 2008. Non-compliance issues in the areas of health and physical education curriculum and licensure were identified during this visit.

Fangman indicated that Grandview Park Baptist has brought those areas into compliance and submitted a Comprehensive School Improvement Plan and Annual Progress Report for the 2006-2007 school year and are recommended for approval.

Sister Jude Fitzpatrick asked for clarification that the status of teacher licensure had been met and Fangman indicated the requirements were met.

**Motion:** Sister Jude Fitzpatrick moved and Brian Gentry seconded that Grandview Park Baptist School, Des Moines, be approved for general accreditation status for grades K-8.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

### Rules: Chapter 103, "Corporal Punishment" (Notice)

Carol Greta, Legal Counsel, and Thomas Mayes, Consultant presented information regarding Chapter 103 rules. Greta stated that Iowa Code section 280.21 required the State Board of Education to adopt rules to implement the general statutory ban on corporal punishment and the exceptions. She indicated the chapter had been reviewed in 1991, and

much research had since been conducted regarding seclusion and restraint of students. The proposed amendments provide more detail than is presently in the current rule (103.6) regarding allowable parameters when a student is physically confined or detained.

**Motion:** Max Phillips moved and Valorie Kruse seconded approval of the proposed amendments to Chapter 103 rules, "Corporal Punishment" for Notice of Intended Action.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

### **Practitioner Preparation Program – Wartburg College**

Arlie Willems, Administrative Consultant, Practitioner Preparation was present to provide information for this agenda item. She also introduced Dr. Kevin Fiene, Wartburg College, who was in attendance.

Willems reported that a preliminary review had been conducted at Wartburg College in January, 2008, by the State Review Panel and the State Review Team. Team members reviewed documents and interviewed Wartburg faculty, staff, administrators, students and practitioners at a site visit on March 30-April 2, 2008. The six standard areas examined were 1) Governance and Resources; 2) Diversity; 3) Faculty Performance and Development; 4) Clinical Practice; 5) Assessment of Candidate Knowledge; and 6) Assessment of the Program. Dr. Willems identified the strengths and concerns in each of these standard areas.

Following a discussion of the concerns, Willems indicated that all items noted for attention in the initial report have been satisfactorily addressed and she recommended the Wartburg College practitioner preparation program for full approval.

**Motion:** Wayne Kobberdahl moved and Brian Gentry seconded approval of the Wartburg College practitioner preparation program through the next scheduled full accreditation visit, scheduled for the 2012-2013 academic year.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

### **Hawkeye Community College Accreditation Report**

Roger Utman, Chief, Bureau of Community Colleges and Career and Technical Education, was joined by Dr. Greg Schmitz, President and Dr. Linda Allen, Dean, Academic Affairs, Hawkeye Community College, to provide information on the accreditation visit conducted in March, 2008.

Colleen Hunt, Bureau of Community Colleges and Career and Technical Education, co-chaired the visit and was also present.

Mr. Utman indicated that the scope of the 2008 accreditation visit showed that Hawkeye Community College is following the Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQUIP) model for accreditation with the Higher Learning Commission, a commission of the North Central Association. With AQUIP, an institution demonstrates that it meets accreditation standards and expectations through sequences of events that align with those ongoing activities that characterize an organization is striving to improve their performance.

Utman reviewed the institutional strengths cited and also outlined the opportunities for improvement suggested during the visit. The Department of Education recommends continued accreditation for Hawkeye Community College.

Board members expressed concern about assessment, electronic interfacing with students, concurrent enrollment and courses, dual-credit courses and assuring quality faculty. Dr. Schmitz and Dr. Allen provided clarification for these questions and concerns.

**Motion:** Wayne Kobberdahl moved and Sister Jude Fitzpatrick seconded approval that continued accreditation be granted to Hawkeye Community College through 2014-2015. A state interim accreditation visit will be held in 2011-2012.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

### **Iowa Community Colleges Fiscal Year 2009 Certified Budget Report**

Kent Farver, CPA and Education Program Consultant, Community Colleges and Career and Technical Education and Greg Schmitz, President, Hawkeye Community College, were present to discuss this agenda item.

Mr. Farver indicated that the State Board has statutory responsibility for approval of the community college budgets. The budget report provides the Board with information necessary to review and approve the proposed budgets prior to June 1 of each year.

The process colleges' use in preparing their annual budget was outlined by Farver. He also discussed some of the major budget issues for the 2009 community college budget which are as follows: 1) sustaining funding resources; 2) increasing use of tuition and fees to balance budget; 3) high tax rate due to low valuation; 4) difficulty in maintaining quality while keeping cost affordable; 5) no change in property tax revenue and ever increasing personnel costs.

**Motion:** Max Phillips moved and Wayne Kobberdahl seconded approval of the community college budgets as provided.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

## Iowa's Community College Adult Literacy Annual Report— Executive Summary; Program Year 2007

Helene Grossman and Amy Vybiral, Consultants, Adult Education and Adult Literacy reviewed the Adult Literacy Annual Report. Ms. Grossman said the report consisted of the following four sections: 1) Introduction and background, 2) Benchmark report, 3) GED report, and 4) Iowa's Community College Based Basic Skills Literacy Credential program.

Amy Vybiral stated that lowa had met or exceeded all state and federal benchmarks. She also reported that lowa had met the national core follow-up measures.

Helene Grossman indicated that the GED pass rate of 99% exceeded the previous projected pass rate of 96% by three percentage points. She also reported that 3,683 persons completed the tests and 3,632 passed, which is a 98.65 pass-rate. This is the highest pass-rate in the U.S. and Canada.

Additional statistical results of the GED testing program candidates were also presented. Grossman pointed out that the lowa community college system serves as the primary delivery system for lowa's GED testing infrastructure.

# Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services Strategic Plan Progress Report

Administrator Stephen Wooderson, Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services, was available for this presentation. He introduced staff member, Matt Coulter. Wooderson explained that vocational rehabilitation is a federal/state funded (78.7 % federal funds matched by 12.3% non-federal funds) program. He said the five following strategic objectives had been established to achieve the mission, motto and guiding principles:

- Develop and foster an engaging work environment that promotes innovation and continual improvement to achieve organizational priorities;
- 2. Develop a workforce that identifies and responds to changing workforce and work place needs;
- 3. Develop and deliver customer service that addresses customer needs and requirements;
- 4. Increase efficiency and customer value through performance accountability and continuous quality improvement; and
- 5. Build external relationships that contribute to improved services that better the lives of lowans with disabilities.

Mr. Wooderson provided specific examples of the Partnerships for Success program and its accomplishments with individuals and employers.

Board members were pleased to hear about client success and the work of the Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services programs.

### **Board Reports**

<u>Valorie Kruse</u> provided personal background information and talked about the committees, community and school projects she had served on prior to her appointment to the State Board.

<u>LaMetta Wynn</u> introduced herself and shared information about past experiences she would be bringing with her appointment to the Board.

Wayne Kobberdahl – No report.

Brian Gentry – No report.

<u>Sister Jude Fitzpatrick</u> provided an update on the Coordinating Council on Post High School Education meeting.

Max Phillips reported on the upcoming meetings of the Institute for Tomorrow's Workforce. He also said an ad hoc group of administrators and business leaders was being formed to discuss school transformation in Iowa. There is also a legislative discussion about doing an adequacy and equity study. Phillips felt these would be good discussion topics to be incorporated into the State Board Retreat agenda.

Rosie Hussey thanked Elaine Watkins-Miller for her work on the State Board Educational Leadership Report that had been released. Hussey also announced that North Iowa Area Community College had named a

new president, Dr. Deborah Deere from Madison, Wisconsin. Her appointment is effective July 1, 2008.

Director Jeffrey handed out letters of appreciation to State Board members from the Iowa Association of School Boards recognizing board members during School Board Recognition Week.

Valorie Kruse moved and Sister Jude Fitzpatrick seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Rosie Hussey
President

Judy A. Jeffrey, Director and Executive Officer